

1 **ARKANSAS PROFESSIONAL BAIL BOND COMPANY AND PROFESSIONAL**
2 **BAIL BONDSMAN LICENSING BOARD**

3 **July 14, 2006**

4
5 Chairman Don Smith called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

6
7 Roll call was taken. The following members were present: Don Smith, Frank Sturgeon, Marc
8 Oudin, Eugene Reynolds and Phyllis Carruth. Lynn Williams and Rex Morris were absent. Also
9 present were board counsel, Assistant Attorney General Nancy Pryor and Amy Ford, and Hearing
10 Officer, Assistant Attorney General Ashley Fisher; Executive Director, Tommy Reed; Board staff
11 and members of the audience.

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13 Following a review of the Board Minutes for June 9, 2006 Mr. Sturgeon moved to approve the
14 minutes as presented. Mr. Oudin seconded. The motion carried on unanimous voice vote.

15
16 **OLD BUSINESS**

17
18 **Transfers/Suspensions/Reinstatements:**

19 A report was provided for information purposes: Nine (9) requests to transfer license were
20 submitted and granted during the month. There were seven (7) agent suspensions pursuant to
21 notice from the company.

22
23 **Forfeitures - Open:**

24 The Open Forfeiture Report was presented. The chair invited comments or discussion; attention
25 was called to two large forfeitures presented for Holt Bonding Co. and it was noted there was no
26 security deposit left. The Chairman called for motions. Mr. Oudin moved to suspend those
27 licensees whose forfeitures were not timely paid between July 14, 2006 and the August 11, 2006
28 regular board meeting. Mr. Sturgeon seconded. The Chair called for discussion; there was no
29 discussion. The motion carried on unanimous voice vote.

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31 **Past Due Forfeitures:**

32 The Past Due Forfeiture Report was presented for review. The Chair invited comment or
33 discussion. Mr. Reed advised he would seek information from the prosecuting attorneys regarding
34 the status of negotiations on the two large judgments listed. The Board then proceeded to the next
35 item.

36
37 **Re: APBBLB #06-015 Renny v. Handy – Request to Vacate Order**

38 Mr. Reed reviewed the circumstances leading to the parties' request to vacate the order entered in
39 the matter. He noted that Randel Miller, Mr. Handy's attorney, had call that morning and advised
40 he was in a jury trial and unable to attend but that Mr. Handy intended to be present. Mr. Handy
41 was not present; but arrived later. Mr. Reynolds stated that he was in the hospital at the time of
42 the hearing and appreciated the Board's action. He noted that "you were within your rights to do
43 that." He explained that Mr. Handy owed him "a lot of money;" that he and Mr. Handy "made an
44 agreement" for Darrick to pay \$500 a month until the amount owed Mr. Reynolds was paid and
45 that Darrick was to "pick up" forfeitures in West Memphis. Mr. Reynolds stated he had paid over
46 \$65,000 to courts on bonds written by Darrick. The Board discussed Mr. Handy's history of not
47 keeping agreements and declined to take action.

48
49 **Re: APBBLB #06-029 Manuel v. Tommy Reed, et al**

50 Mr. Reed noted a hearing on the state's motion to dismiss was scheduled Tuesday in Pulaski
51 Circuit Court. Mr. Sturgeon inquired whether his legal expenses related to the City Attorney of

1 Crossett filing an answer on his behalf could be reimbursed. After discussion with board counsel,
2 it was determined the legal expenses could not be reimbursed.

3 4 **NEW BUSINESS**

5 6 **June Vouchers Paid**

7 A report of payments made in June was provided for information purposes. Chairman Smith
8 invited questions and/or discussion regarding the vouchers paid. There was no further discussion
9 and the Board proceeded.

10 11 **License Approvals:**

12 There were two (2) bondsman applications submitted for approval. Five (5) were submitted for
13 tentative approval. Mr. Oudin moved to approve the applications, including those tentatively
14 submitted pending receipt and approval of necessary documentation. Mr. Sturgeon seconded. The
15 Chair called for discussion or comments; hearing none, the matter was put to a vote. The motion
16 carried with none opposed.

17 18 **Legislative Audit Report**

19 The report was submitted for review by the Board. Mr. Reed noted the only comment related to
20 lack of personnel to adequately segregate financial transactions, which is common to small
21 agencies. Mr. Smith commented he was pleased with the results of the audit; others agreed. The
22 Chair called for discussion or comments; hearing none, the Chair proceeded with the agenda.

23 24 **Re: Creation of Board Website**

25 The Chair noted he had approved Mr. Reed's oral request to enter a contract for creation of a
26 Board website and asked Mr. Reed to give the Board a summary of the website. Mr. Reed noted
27 the creation of the website fit well with a statewide governmental technological initiative to
28 provide on-line electronic governmental services. He noted the website would eventually provide
29 information to bond companies, courts and law enforcement, and the public for a variety of
30 purposes. He added that development of an integrated database would provide increase the
31 Board's ability to view and retrieve information. The Board expressed its approval.

32 33 **Public Comments:**

34 Chairman Smith opened the floor for public comments. Mr. Reed noted that Mr. Handy was now
35 present and asked if the Board desired to allow Mr. Handy to address the Board. After a brief
36 discussion, the Board declined to do so. There were no further comments or discussion and the
37 Chair turned the floor to the hearing officer, Asst. Atty General Ashley Fisher, to conduct the
38 scheduled hearings.

39 40 **Hearings**

41 The following matters were heard:

42 43 **APPBLB #06-034**

44 **Board v. Billy Kennedy/Bryce's Bail Bonding, Inc.**

45 46 **APPBLB #06-010**

47 **Board v. Tony Smith**

48 49 **APPBLB #06-035**

50 **Exit Bail Bond Co. v. Chad Wilson**

1 The following matter was continued due to lack of a forum:
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3 **APPBLB #05-015**

4 **Rojas v. Arthur Harris/Renny's Bail Bond Company, Inc.**
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7 At the conclusion of the hearings, the Board resumed its business and the meeting was adjourned.
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9 Submitted for approval: This 11th day of August 2006, _____
10 Tommy Sturgeon, Vice-Chairman